DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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Classification/Control Markings

This report contains unprocessed information. Plans and/or policies should not be evolved or modified solely on basis of this report.

1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)
2. REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC
3. TITLE: (U) MILITARY DOCTRINE-ARGENTINE AIR FORCE RELATIONSHIP TO THE U.S.
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 790319
6. DATE OF REPORT: 790322
7. DATE & PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790319, Buenos Aires
8. REFERENCES: (b)(3):10 USC 424
9. ASSESSMENT: SOURCE [redacted] INFO [redacted] (b)(3):10 USC 424
10. ORIGINATOR: (b)(3):10 USC 424
11. REQUEST EVALUATION ____, QPQ ______ (country)
12. PREPARING OFFICER:
13. APPROVING AUTHORITY:
14. SOURCE: Sec. 3.3(b) (1)
15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)

~~NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVERNMENT~~

DIRC: YES ☐ NO ☒

16. SUMMARY:

(U) IR relates the high points of a recent discussion between [redacted] (b)(3):10 USC and three Argentine Air Force (ARGAF)field grade officers. The U.S. human rights policy and the status of current relations between the U.S. and Argentina are discussed. Through these conversations held during a visit to an air brigade, RO detected some confusion on our current policies, but more significantly, an eagerness to strengthen the interaction between USAF and ARGAF.

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19. DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION DATA:

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~~DECLASSIFY ON: 22 MAR 1999~~

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Date: *Oct 19, 2018*

20. ENCLOSURES:

MICROFICHE [illegible] RDS-[illegible]

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21. This IR contains 3 pages.

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Continuation Sheet (b)(3):10 USC 424

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Report No (b)(3):10 USC 4
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Originator (b)(3):10 USC 424

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22. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ DETAILS: 1. (U) [redacted] the opportunity to visit Moron AB (b)(3):10 USC 42 on 790319 for about three hours. The base is the home of the VII Air Brigade, which is equipped with helicopters and light utility aircraft. The visit was extremely pleasant in all respects, helping to reinforce [redacted] conviction that the long-standing mutual admiration between ARGAF and USAF remains strong.

(b)(3):10 USC 42

2. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ Source B had (b)(3):10 USC 424 assistance in 7811 in obtaining an English copy of the technical manual for the UH-1H helicopter of which the VII AB has five. [redacted] Sec. 3.3(b) (1) [redacted] the manual was obtained [redacted] phoned Source B to notify him. When I requested permission to visit the base for the purpose of delivering the manual, he suggested that I visit the next working day and insisted on picking me up Sec. 3.3(b) (1) at Aeroparque Jorge Newberry, Sec. 3.3(b) (1) I accepted his offer, and the following Monday Sec. 3.3(b) (1) to the air base, [redacted] [redacted]

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

(b)(3):10 U

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ We went to Source B's office soon after arrival for coffee nd conversation. He was delighted with the technical manual, which was pdated through October, 1978, and planned to have it translated immediately for use in the squadron. We then discussed helicopter operations (about which [redacted] knows very little), and he explained the training program, combat operations, and the organizational changes they were making. [redacted] [redacted] He then showed me around the squadron building, pointing with pride to the various training aids, briefing facilities, and management tools that were in use. He was most grateful, as were several other squadron pilots, for the past services rendered by Major John Cato, USAF, a former member of the USMILGP who had worked with the VII Air Brigade in helicopter training programs.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

4. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ Source then introduced me to Sources C and D, [redacted] Sec. 3.3(b) (1) The four of us had coffee and talked for about fifteen minutes. Source C seemed somewhat cool at first, as we collectively lamented the rash of terrorism and communist subversion in the several trouble spots around the world. He asked me, somewhat sarcastically, if I really considered communism a serious threat. When I answered yes, he asked, how, in that case, I could rationalize the adverse affects of the U.S. human rights policy on countries (read Argentina) that were more dedicated to fighting communism than the U.S. apparently is. I responded that my country's human rights policy and its application is a political matter that I, as a military officer, could not adequately address. I added, nevertheless, that in my opinion and unofficially, most U.S. military personnel who are knowledgeable about Argentina's struggle against internal subversion in recent years respected their total commitment to solving the problem. It now appears, I continued, that Argentina has eliminated the threat to its internal security, insofar as possible, and the important thing now, from the U.S. perspective, is to

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withdraw from the excesses and repressions of the last three years and to reestablish the rule of law. This, in essence, I said, is the crux of our human rights policy, as it applies to Argentina, and that the policy was here to stay, as far as I was concerned. He seemed to be in agreement with this perspective, because he didn't continue the argument. Instead, he thanked me for visitng him, told me that I was welcome here ("Esta en su casa"), and that I should feel free to visit anytime.

5. (U) Source D then invited Source B and me to his office for further conversation. He had to terminate the visit, however, after about five minutes since an inspection team was just landing. Source B and I then took a tour of the base in his automobile and stopped at the officer's club for a soft drink. Sec. 3.3(b)(1) we terminated the tour at that point and Sec. 3.3(b)(1) back to Aeroparque. He mentioned in departing that next time he wanted me to spend the whole day at the base so he could show me more of the operation and explain more of the details.

COMMENT: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ This unit visit, arranged on short notice, was typical of the warm reception I'd received at other units. There is no doubt (b)(3):10 USC that ARGAF officers, in general, highly respect the U.S. Air Force--its doctrine, its combat philosophy, and its operational concepts. There seemed to be a message, silently transmitted, that called for renewal of the close bonds that existed in former days. To the man, (b)(3 contacts criticize (perceived) inconsistencies of the current human rights policy and, particularly, the fact that traditional allies who depend upon U.S. training and equipment have been cut off by the U.S. at the same time that these countries are struggling to defeat subversive elements who practice total disregard for human rights. While they respect our idealism, they nevertheless are convinced that they were justified in using harsh methods to overcome the terrorist and Marxist elements that nearly brought Argentina to its knees. They seem willing now, even anxious, to reestablish a legitimate social order based on rule of law, but they point out that they are the best judges of the appropriate timetable to be followed, regardless of U.S. pressures to expedite the process. They are proud of the progress made in the last three years, claiming that the extreme measures sometimes taken were lamentable but often necessary. At any rate, they wish the U.S. to be aware of their successes, and, given this awareness, to re-open the doors to military cooperation before U.S. influence declines any further.

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